6. Shri K. Jayakumar,
Special Secretary (Tourism),
Government of Kerala
7. Shri Ghulam Naqshband,
Indian Association of Tour Operators,
Sita World Travels India Pvt. Ltd.
8. Shri Tej Sahni,
President,
Travel Agents Association of India,
Vista Travels, Bombay
9. Shri Subhash Goel,
Indian Association of Tour Operators,
Stick Travels, New Delhi
10. Shri Krishan Mahajan,
Indian Association of Tour Operators,
Ambassador Travels, Bombay
11. Shri V.S. Ramanchandran,
Addl. P.S. to Minister of Civil Aviation
& Tourism

Gradation of Hotels and Restaurants in India

475. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many hotels and restaurants in India have been given ratings ranging from one-star to five stars and even higher; if so, what are guidelines for the award of these ratings;

(b) what is the number of hotels holding different categories of stars and what are the names of hotels holding 3-star and above status;

(c) what are the facilities/services which each category of starred hotels is supposed to offer;

(d) when was the last rating carried out and whether any hotels were up- graded or down-graded as a result thereof; if so, the names thereof; and

(e) whether Government propose a revision of the above guidelines and to broad-base the rating procedures to ensure that the starred hotels actually provide those services which they are supposed to provide?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM: (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Under a voluntary scheme for Classification of hotels, star category ratings are given after an inspection by the Hotel & Restaurants Approval & Classification Committee. Approval to Restaurants is also given after inspection by the Committee. Guidelines for Classification and the number of hotels classified in different categories and the names of hotels classified in 3-Star and above categories is given in the Annexure [*See* Appendix 170, Annexure No. 9.] .

(d) and (e) Classification/ Declassification is a continuous process and the inspection of hotels is carried out on continual basis by the Central Committee and the Regional Committees. With a view to ensure that star hotels actually provide the services which they are supposed to, reclassification in a particular star category, up-gradation and down-gradation is done on the basis of these inspections.

Arrival of Foreign Tourists in the Country

476. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tourism is a major source of foreign exchange earnings for India; if so, what is the amount of foreign exchange earned by the Indian Tourism Industry during 1991, 1992 and 1993 and projections for the 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999;

(b) what are the top 20 countries from where maximum tourists come to India and what was the number of tourists from each such country during 1991- 92 and 1992-93; and

(c) what are the details of measures being taken by Government to attract more foreign tourists, particularly from the countries which have hitherto untapped potential to send tourists to India?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The estimated foreign exchange earnings form tourism during the last three years were as given below:—

Year	Rs. Crores
1991	2918
1992	3916
1993	4251

The year-wise projections of foreign exchange earnings from tourism are not worked out.

(b) The tourist arrivals from top 20 countries during 1991-92 and 1992-93 were as given below:

Sl.	Country	1991-92	1992-93
1.	U.K.	220,748	254,450
2.	U.S.A.	133,373	149,225
3.	Germany	77,391	85,356
4.	France	72,726	74,195
5.	Sri Lanka	68,123	73,828
6.	Japan	51,953	54,843
7.	Italy	49,303	48,315
8.	C.I.S.	33,195	44,239
9.	Canada	39,931	43,775
10.	Malysia	30,266	37,264
11.	Singapore	28,810	36,219
12.	Netherlands	23,063	29,464
13.	Switzerland	29,956	29,431
14.	U.A.E.	31,362	29,243
15.	Australia	22,808	28,254
16.	Nepal	23,348	26,143
17.	Spain	14,458	24,699
18.	Saudi Arabia	25,113	19,345
19.	Iran	18,966	16,170
20.	Kenya	14,967	15,800

(c) The measures taken by the Government for attracting more foreign tourists to the country include strengthening of publicity and promotional efforts in the major tourist generating countries and some of the potential markets like South Africa, Israel etc. and improvement of tourism product.

Audit of annual accounts of Vayudoot

477. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vayudoot, as a Company has got its Annual Accounts audited regularly as per the Companies Act and published during the last 5 years;

(b) when the accounts for the period 1988-89, 1989-90, 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93 were audited and finalised and when the audited accounts were published for each year;

(c) whether there has been any failure on the part of Vayudoot to follow the necessary guidelines in this regard; if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) what were the totalaccumulated losses of Vayudoot as on 31st March, 1992 and 31st March, 1993;

(e) whether Vayudoot has become a profitable organisation or is it still making losses; and

(f) what are the details in this regard for each of the last 3 years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Annual Accounts for the year 1988-89 have already been laid before parliament on 21st/22nd December, 1992. The Audited Accounts for the year 1989-90 are ready and will be laid in the current Session of Parliament. The Statutory audit of the Annual Accounts for the year 1990-91 is now under process. The Accounts for 1991-92 and 1992-93 are yet to be finalised.

(c) Audited Accounts of Government Undertakings are required to be laid on the Table of the Houses within nine months of the completion of the relevent accounting year. Since Vayudoot was not directly owned by the Government it was of the view that Account were not required to be laid. However on the recommendation of the committee on Papers Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha, the Accounts for the period from 1981-82 to 1985-86 were laid on the Table of the Houses in May, 1989. Due to this initial delay, Accounts of Subsequent years were also delayed.

(d) The total accumulated losses of Vayudoot as on 31.03.1992 and 31.03.1993 are estimated at Rs.160.40 crores and Rs.184.55 crores respectively.

(e) and (f). Vayudoot continues to incur losses. The losses in the year 1990- 91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 are estimated at Rs. 37.07 crores, Rs.30.16 crores and Rs. 24.15 crores respectively.